

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

### **LISTING OF CLAIMS**

1. (Amended) A method ~~for~~ optimizing soft handover between RNCs (Radio Network Controllers), ~~comprising~~~~comprises~~ steps of:

a. according to the measurement control information provided by a corresponding SRNC of a Node B to which a UE currently belongs, measuring signals of co-frequency neighbor cells by the UE to obtain a measuring result; reporting the measuring result to said SRNC by the UE;

b. making a handover decision according to said measuring result by said SRNC, and determining whether to make a soft handover; if not, then continuing to make handover decision; if yes, then determining whether said SRNC has right to dispatch common resources of a target Node B to which said the current UE is to handover;

c. if yes, applying for required common resources to a specific functional entity that controls said common resources of said target Node B by said SRNC, and then going to Step d; if not, then initiating a soft handover between RNCs, and ending; and

d. according to status of current use of common resources of said target Node B, responding whether said common resources are available by said specific functional entity, if yes, then establishing a direct connection between said SRNC and said target Node B by said SRNC, and initiating a soft handover within RNC, otherwise, initiating a soft handover between RNCs.

2. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the measuring result in step b is a signal strength measuring result.
3. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the measuring result in step b is a bit error rate measuring result.
4. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the measuring result in step b is a signal-interference ratio measuring result.
5. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the specific functional entity is a logical functional entity within said target Node B.
6. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the specific functional entity is a logical functional entity in a network server.
7. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein said status of current use of common resources of said target Node B in step d is obtained according to whether there are idle common resources in target Node B.
8. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein said initiating a soft handover between RNCs further comprises:
  - setting the currently corresponding RNC of said target Node B as a DRNC,
  - establishing a link between said SRNC and said DRNC, and

making a soft handover between said SRNC and said DRNC.

9. (Amended) The method according to Claim 1, further comprises retrieving the corresponding common resources by said target Node B, when a soft handover has been completed and said direct connection between SRNC and target Node B needs to be disconnected.